

**CLAIM SUMMARY DOCUMENT**

1. (Currently Amended): ~~Brake~~ A brake pad for a disc brake of a vehicle, ~~particularly of a rail vehicle, having comprising:~~

a carrier plate ~~(2) to which;~~

several friction elements ~~(1), which, when the brake is actuated, can be pressed onto the friction surface of a brake disc, are in each case fastened to the carrier plate adjacent a front side of the carrier plate, the;~~

tension springs ~~(6) being supported on the a rear side of the carrier plate (2) facing away from the friction elements (1); and~~

~~characterized in that the carrier plate (2) is being partially form-elastically deformable in the an overlapping area of the friction elements (1).~~

2. (Currently Amended): ~~Brake~~ A brake pad according to the preamble of Claim 1, characterized in that for a disc brake of a vehicle, comprising:

a carrier plate;

several friction elements, which, when the brake is actuated, can be pressed onto the friction surface of a brake disc, fastened to the carrier plate adjacent a front side of the carrier plate;

tension springs supported on a rear side of the carrier plate facing away from the friction elements; and

a spring element ~~(13, 14) is assigned to for~~ each friction element ~~(1), which spring element (13, 14) is supported on the one side on the a back of the friction element (1) and on the other another side on the front side of the carrier plate (2), on its side facing the friction element, and forms a radial fixing of the friction element (1).~~

3. (Currently Amended): ~~Brake~~ The brake pad according to Claim 1, characterized in that wherein, for the elastic deformability, slots ~~(4, 9) or grooves are provided which are made in a defined manner in the carrier plate (2).~~

4. (Currently Amended): ~~Brake~~ The brake pad according to Claim ~~1 or 3~~, wherein each friction element (1) ~~resting~~ rests in a ball socket (3) of the carrier plate (2), ~~characterized in that~~ and the slots (4) are arranged in a radially extending manner in the ball socket (3).

5. (Currently Amended): ~~Brake~~ The brake pad according to Claim 1, wherein each friction element ~~resting~~ rests in a ball socket (3) provided in the carrier plate (2), ~~characterized in that~~ and the ball socket (3) is constructed at least in areas as a cup spring.

6. (Currently Amended): ~~Brake~~ The brake pad according to ~~one of Claims 1 or 3 to 5~~ Claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the thickness of the areas, which are bounded by two slots (4) respectively and form webs, is one of constant over the radius ~~or~~ and differs over the radius.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended): ~~Brake~~ The brake pad according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein partial thickenings, on areas which the friction elements (1) rest, are provided in the overlapping area of the friction elements (1).

9. (Currently Amended): ~~Brake~~ The brake pad according to Claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the thickenings are constructed as knobs (10).

10. (Currently Amended): ~~Brake~~ The brake pad according to ~~Claim 7~~ Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the thickness of the carrier plate (2) as a whole is one of identical ~~or~~ and differs in a defined manner.

11. (Currently Amended): ~~Brake~~ The brake pad according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein, outside the overlapping area of the friction element (1), slots (9), which are arranged in a defined manner, are provided in the carrier plate (2).

12. (Currently Amended): ~~Brake~~ The brake pad according to Claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein each spring element (13, 14) rests in a receiving device (12) provided in the front side of the carrier plate (2).

13. (Currently Amended): ~~Brake~~ The brake pad according to Claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the spring element (13) is constructed as a cup spring.

14. (Currently Amended): ~~Brake~~ The brake pad according to Claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the cup spring (13) rests on the friction element (1) by ~~means of its~~ an edge bounding the internal center bore of the cup spring.

15. (Currently Amended): ~~Brake~~ The brake pad according to Claim 12 or 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the depth of the receiving device (12) is smaller than the height of the unstressed cup spring (13).

16. (Currently Amended): ~~Brake~~ The brake pad according to Claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the inside diameter of the cup spring (13) corresponds approximately to the largest outside diameter of an attachment of the friction element (1), ~~preferably wherein the attachment is~~ in the form of one of a spherical-segment-shaped area (8), a cylindrical cylinder and a cone or a conical attachment.

17. (Currently Amended): ~~Brake~~ The brake pad according to Claim 12 or 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the outside diameter of the receiving device (12) is smaller than the largest base plan dimension of the friction element (1).

18. (Currently Amended): ~~Brake~~ The brake pad according to Claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the spring element (14) is constructed as a form spring in which the friction element (1) rests radially fixed on the rear side.

19. (Currently Amended): ~~Brake~~ The brake pad according to Claim 18, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the form spring (14) has an indentation (15) in which an attachment of the friction element (1) rests ~~which is adapted thereto~~.

20. (Currently Amended): ~~Brake~~ The brake pad according to Claim 19, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the indentation (15) has one of a spherical-cap-shaped or and conical construction.

21. (Currently Amended): ~~Brake~~ The brake pad according to Claim 19 or 20, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein an edge area of the form spring (14) bounding the indentation (15) rests on the friction element (1).

22. (Currently Amended): ~~Brake~~ The brake pad according to Claim 18, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the form spring (14) has an axially extending, circumferential collar (16) which projects slightly beyond the carrier plate (2) on the front side of the carrier plate facing the friction element (1).

23. (Currently Amended): ~~Brake~~ The brake pad according to Claim 21 or 22, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein, relative to the base of the receiving device (12), the edge area bounding the indentation (15) is higher than the collar (16).

24. (Currently Amended): ~~Brake~~ The brake pad according to Claim 11 or 18, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the diameter of the receiving device (12) corresponds to the outside diameter of the form spring (14).

25. (Currently Amended): ~~Brake~~ The brake pad according to Claim 24, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the outer base plan dimension of the form spring (14) is smaller than the largest base plan dimension of the friction element (1).

26. (Currently Amended): ~~Brake~~ The brake pad according to Claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the spring elements (13, 14) consist of spring steel sheet.

27. (Currently Amended): ~~Brake~~ The brake pad according to Claim 1 or 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the carrier plate (2) consists of a casting material,

~~particularly a precision casting, preferably~~selected from one of a cast steel ~~or~~ and cast aluminum.

28. (Currently Amended): ~~Brake~~The brake pad according to Claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the carrier plate ~~(2)~~ consists of steel sheet.

29. (Currently Amended): ~~Brake~~The brake pad according to Claim 1 ~~or~~ 28, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the carrier plate ~~(2)~~ is constructed as a deep-drawn steel sheet part.

30. (New): The brake pad according to Claim 21, wherein, relative to the base of the receiving device, the edge area bounding the indentation is higher than the collar.